

**STAVIS SEAFOODS, INC.
BOSTON, MA 02210**

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM
(29 CFR 1910.134)**

POLICY:

It is the policy of Stavis Seafoods, Inc. to provide its employees with a safe and healthful work environment. The guidelines in this program are designed to help reduce employee exposure to occupational air contaminants and oxygen deficiency. The primary objective is to prevent excessive exposure to these contaminants. This is accomplished by accepted engineering and work practice control measures. When effective engineering controls are not feasible, or while they are being implemented or evaluated, respiratory protection may be required to achieve this goal. In these situations, respiratory protection is provided at no cost to the employee. No employee will be assigned to tasks requiring the use of respirators unless it has been determined that they are physically able to perform the work and use the equipment.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

1) MANAGEMENT:

It is the responsibility of Stavis Seafoods Safety Officer Gary Hardin to determine what specific applications require the use of respiratory protective equipment. Stavis Seafoods will provide the proper respiratory protective equipment to meet the needs of each specific application. All affected employees must be provided with adequate training and instructions on all equipment.

2) EMPLOYEES:

It is the responsibility of the employee to have an awareness of the respiratory protection requirements for their work areas. Employees are also responsible for wearing the appropriate respiratory protective equipment and for maintaining the equipment in a clean and operable condition.

RESPIRATOR SELECTION:

Respirators will be selected on the basis of hazards to which the worker is exposed ([See workplace hazard assessment](#)) All selections will be made by the Stavis Seafoods Safety Officer. Only NIOSH certified respirators will be selected and used.

MEDICAL EVALUATION:

Every Stavix Seafoods employee who is being considered for inclusion in the respiratory protection program must participate in a medical evaluation. A determination of the employees ability to wear a respirator while working is made initially before fit testing. Future evaluations are made when there is a change in workplace conditions or information indicating a need for re-evaluation. Medical records for participating employees are kept on file in the Quality Assurance office and are reviewed annually.

RESPIRATOR TRAINING AND FIT TEST:

The user will be instructed and trained in the proper use of respirators and their limitations. Training should provide the the employee an opportunity to handle the respirator, have it fitted properly, test its facepiece to face seal, wear it in normal air for a familiarity period, and finally wear it in a test atmosphere. Every respirator wearer will receive fitting instructions, including demonstrations and practice in how the respirator should be worn, how to adjust it, and how respirators should not be worn when conditions prevent a good face seal. Such conditions may be facial hair, sideburns, a skull cap that projects under the facepiece, or temple pieces on eyeglasses. The workers diligence in observing these factors will be evaluated by periodic checks. To assure proper protection, the facepiece fit will be checked by the wearer each time the respirator is worn. This will be done by following the positive / negative facepiece fitting instructions ([See appendix A](#))

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION OF RESPIRATORS:

The following procedures can be used to clean and disinfect a respirator:

Wash with a detergent or a detergent/disinfectant combination, in warm water using a brush. Rinse in clean water, or rinse once with a disinfectant and once with clean water. Air dry on a rack or hang. Position the respirator so that the facepiece rubber will not dry misshaped ([See checklist appendix B](#))

ROUTINE INSPECTION OF RESPIRATORS:

A. Rubber facepiece should be checked for:

1. Dirt
2. Cracks, tears, or holes
3. Distortion from improper storage
4. Cracked, scratched, or loose fitting lens
5. Broken or missing mounting clips

B. Headstraps should be checked for:

1. Breaks or tears
2. Loss of elasticity

3. Broken or malfunctioning buckles or attachments
4. Excessively worn serrations of the headstraps which might allow the facepiece to slip

C. Valves should be checked for:

1. Detergent residue, dust or dirt on the valve seat
2. Cracks, tears or distortion in the valve
3. Missing or defective valve cover

D. Filters should be checked for:

1. Missing or worn gaskets
2. Worn threads
3. Cracks or dents in the housing
4. Spent, dirty, condition

Respirators will inspected after each use and at least once each month.

RESPIRATOR STORAGE:

Respirators will be stored in a convenient, clean, and sanitary location.

This program will be reviewed and evaluated on an annual basis or after any changes to workplace conditions by the Stavis Seafoods Safety Officer.

Annual Review:_____

Regulatory Affairs Manager
Stavis Seafoods, Inc.

Date:_____